

WILLIAM BUTTERFIELD.

[To accompany bill H. R. No. 221.]

MARCH 5, 1840.

Mr. CHITTENDEN, from the Committee on Invalid Pensions, made the following

REPORT:

*The Committee on Invalid Pensions, to whom was referred the petition of William Butterfield, report:*

That the petitioner states that he was a private in a company of cavalry commanded by Captain Aaron Palmer, under the command of General Brown, and stationed at Ogdensburg, in December, 1812; that, by order of General Brown, he was sent on express to Indian Village, and in crossing a stream of water on the ice his horse broke through, and he was perfectly wet, and had to ride several miles in that condition, and was soon afterward taken sick with a fever, and has never recovered from its effects, and that he is totally unable to obtain his subsistence by manual labor; that, after he was taken sick, he was attended by Dr. Smith (since deceased), and so far recovered that he was sent home by his captain, to Rodman, where he remained sick and unable to do any thing until the spring following; that his sickness was so severe that it produced entire baldness, and he has never been free from pain and dizziness in his head since that period. The petition is supported by the affidavit of the petitioner and by that of Captain Aaron Palmer, who proves the service of the petitioner, his falling through the ice, by reason of which he became sick, and has since been unable to labor.

Peter Yeudes, a private in the same company, in his affidavit, states that he was well acquainted with the petitioner; that he was sent on express as stated by him, and in crossing a stream fell through the ice and got wet; that he was immediately after taken sick, and as soon as he recovered so as to be able to ride, was sent home by the captain, and has never recovered so as to perform much labor, and became entirely bald, and still remains so, and is a very feeble man.

Said Yeudes, in another affidavit, states that he was intimately acquainted with the petitioner before and since his sickness: that, before his sickness aforesaid, he was a strong, healthy man, and has ever since been a feeble man; and that he believes that his sickness was occasioned by the wet and cold in the time of his service at Ogdensburg. The affidavit of Nathan Crook, the soldier who was in company with the petitioner at the time of his falling into the water, fully sustains the statement of the petitioner.

Martha Butterfield, the mother of the petitioner, in an affidavit, states, that he was brought home from Ogdensburg in the winter of 1812 sick with

a fever, which reduced him very low, and that he has never recovered his health; that before he went into service petitioner was a strong, healthy man; and that he has never enjoyed good health since; that she has known the state of his health well before and since he went into service, having lived in his family; that petitioner is entirely bald.

The affidavit of Sally Sprague proves that she has known the petitioner thirty years, and that he was a man of good constitution and health before going into the service; that he was brought home sick in December, 1812, and was under the care of a physician about six weeks, and that she assisted in taking care of him, and that he has never recovered his health; that his head became bald and has remained so ever since.

The certificate of Amasa Trowbridge and Amasa Trowbridge, jr., surgeons and physicians, that the petitioner, by reason of sickness and debility while in service, is rendered incapable of performing duty as a soldier; that, by satisfactory evidence and accurate examination, it appears that petitioner became sick and enfeebled in consequence of wet, cold, and exposure, when in the service of the United States as a soldier, and has never recovered his health; that he suffers much from said sickness, and is totally disabled from obtaining subsistence by manual labor. This certificate is verified by oath, and the vouchers are certified to be reputable in their profession.

Another certificate of Isaac S. Wood, a practising physician and surgeon, under oath, that he was, in 1812, and still is, the family physician of the petitioner; that he attended upon the petitioner during the last war, when, as was stated, he was brought home from Ogdensburg; that he was sick with a fever, which left him in an enfeebled state of health, which has ever since continued; that, within his knowledge, the petitioner has had no sickness since the one mentioned, and that if it had been so he believes he should have known it. The affidavits are all duly authenticated.

The committee, therefore, resolve to report a bill for the allowance of three-fourths disability, or six dollars per month, from the first of January, 1838.

Peter Yeudes, a private in the same company, in his affidavit, states that he was well acquainted with the petitioner; that he was sent on express as stated by him, and in crossing a stream fell through the ice and got wet; that he was immediately after taken sick, and as soon as he recovered so as to be able to ride, was sent home by the captain, and has never recovered so as to perform much labor, and became entirely bald, and still remains so, and is a very feeble man.

Said Yeudes, in another affidavit, states that he was intimately acquainted with the petitioner before and since his sickness; that, before his sickness, he was a strong, healthy man, and has ever since been a feeble man; and that he believes that his sickness was occasioned by the wet and cold in the time of his service at Ogdensburg. The affidavit of Nathan Crook, the soldier who was in company with the petitioner at the time of his falling into the water, fully sustains the statement of the petitioner. Martha Butterfield, the mother of the petitioner, in an affidavit, states that he was brought home from Ogdensburg in the winter of 1812 sick with